

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

09/554451  
526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 MAY 2000

#4/a  
py  
8.19.00

In re Application of

MURPHY ET AL

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: May 15, 2000

Examiner:

Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN OR  
RELATING TO DETECTION  
OF MOLECULES IN SAMPLES

May 15, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 4, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1, 2 or 3" and insert

-- claim 1 --.

Claims 5, 6 and 7, line 1 of each, delete "any one of the preceding  
claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "or 8".

Claims 10, 11 and 12, line 1 of each, delete "any one of the preceding  
claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 15, line 1, delete "or 14".

Claim 16, line 1, delete "any one of claims 13, 14 or 15" and insert  
-- claim 13 --.  
Claim 17, line 1, delete "any one of claims 13-16" and insert -- claim  
13 --.  
Claim 18, line 1, delete "any one of claims 13-17" and insert -- claim  
13 --.  
Claim 22, lines 1-2, delete "any one of claims 19, or 21" and insert  
-- claim 19 --.  
Cancel claims 25 and 26.

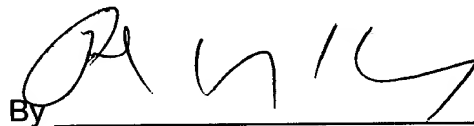
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are being made to improve the  
dependency and form of the claims and to reduce the number of claims for  
consideration.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Intellectual Property Group of  
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By 

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